



The Committee on Urban Design and Environment (CUDE) met at 11:30 AM on Thursday, January 21, 2010 in Room 320 City Hall, Rochester, MN.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Nora Dooley, Mark Engel, Sandi Goslee, Mark Jasmin, Jim Judisch, Roger Nelson, Dave Petersen, Terry Spaeth, Susan Strandberg, Jean Weathers-Lowin

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Dick Abraham, Gail Eadie, Stephan Lewis, Lindsey Meek, Brian Smidt, Zach Thaler

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

The meeting started at 11:35.

Mr. Nelson noted that a correction needs to be made to the December minutes; the proposed skyway for the GH Holdings project attaches to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Ramp. Ms. Weathers-Lowin motion/Mr. Nelson second to approve the December minutes as corrected. Unanimous approval.

#### **Referral Notices**

None

#### **Notes of Appreciation**

None

#### **Introduction of New Members**

Ms. Goslee noted that Mr. Smidt was unable to attend this meeting. Ms. Strandberg introduced herself to the group.

#### **Election of Officers**

Mr. Nelson nominated Mr. Judisch to continue as chair; Ms. Dooley seconded the motion. All voted aye. Ms. Dooley nominated Mr. Nelson to continue as Vice-Chair until his term expires; Mr. Judisch seconded the motion. All voted aye. Ms. Dooley nominated Ms. Goslee to continue as Secretary/Treasurer; Mr. Engel seconded the motion. All voted aye.

#### **By-Laws Amendment**

Ms. Dooley made the motion to adopt the revised by-laws by eliminating the Rochester Planning and Zoning Commission as a membership group due to the opinion by the Rochester Ethics Committee; Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. Vote was unanimously AYE.

#### **Quarry Hill Pond Update**

Ms. Dooley let the group know that thanks to Ms. Meek notifying the Quarry Hill staff about the State Legacy funds, Quarry Hill applied for said grant money and received at least \$200,000 to rebuild the leaking pond! Another \$67,000 may be possible if certain criteria are met.

#### **2010 CUDE Awards**

Mr. Petersen mentioned that the RPU/Olmsted County Environmental Achievement Awards were being held tonight. Ms. Goslee stated that this is the awards program that the RPU Director, Planning Director, and City Administrator are interested in combining with the CUDE Awards. Ms. Dooley stated that she doesn't not feel this would be a good fit at all and expressed concern that the CUDE portion would be given a backseat. She felt that if anything were to be merged, the HPC awards would be a more logical fit. Mr.

Engel and Mr. Jasmin commented that they think a merger might work if a whole new animal, such as a city-wide awards program, were created. Ms. Goslee stated that these are the avenues that would be researched in the coming months.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Rochester Preservation Study**

Mr. Petersen presented the letter CUDE asked him to draft recommending a Rochester Preservation Study. Mr. Spaeth asked how the timing would work with the Sasaki Master Plan; Mr. Petersen acknowledged that the timing was not great, but a preservation study could be done in roughly two months if funding is procured. Mr. Nelson asked if the Sasaki Plan has a historical preservation component to it; Mr. Petersen said the HPC has given the City a list of significant structures, but not the analysis and value assessment that a study would have. Ms. Dooley made a motion to send the letter as presented, Mr. Jasmin seconded the motion. All voted aye.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Design Review Subcommittee Update**

Mr. Jasmin led this discussion. He said that the group has met three times and has met with Doug Knott (Administration) and Phil Wheeler (Planning). He said that Mr. Wheeler was very responsive to the goals of the subcommittee.

Perhaps the greatest focus of the group is to provide a consistent process to put all projects on a level playing field. Mr. Engel commented that a Comprehensive Plan update that would tie together all of the individual plans being done across the city would really help in this endeavor.

### **Future Presentations**

Mr. Judisch listed three items he'd like to see brought to CUDE in upcoming meetings

1. Presentation from Jon Eckhoff on direction of the Downtown Alliance
2. Presentation on the Lake Improvement District for Lake Zumbro
3. Presentation from Phil Wheeler on the planning process and future projects CUDE could assist with

**Adjourn – 1:05. Next meeting will be at 11:30 on February 18<sup>th</sup> in Room 320 City Hall.**